

**INFORMATION REPORT
OF THE
STATE FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**



**Indiana Legislative Services Agency
200 W. Washington St., Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789**

November 2010

INDIANA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

2010

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Vice-Chairperson

Fort Wayne

Speaker B. Patrick Bauer

Chairperson

South Bend

Senator Vi Simpson

Bloomington

Representative Brian Bosma

Indianapolis

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Representative Russell Stilwell

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New Albany

Representative William Friend

Macy

Senator Timothy Lanane

Anderson

Representative Kathy

Richardson

Noblesville

John M. Ross
Executive Director
Legislative Services Agency

State Fair Advisory Committee

Membership Roster

Senators

**James Merritt, Chair
Indianapolis**

**James Lewis
Charlestown**

**Scott Schneider
Indianapolis**

**Richard Young
Milltown**

Representatives

**Robert Bischoff
Greendale**

**Joe Pearson
Hartford City**

**Phyllis Pond
New Haven**

**William Ruppel
North Manchester**

Legislative Services Agency Staff

**Bernadette Bartlett, Fiscal Analyst
Steven Wenning, Staff Attorney**

November 2010

A copy of this report is available on the Internet. Reports, minutes, and notices are organized by committee. This report and other documents for this Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly Homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>

INFORMATION REPORT

State Fair Advisory Committee

I. STATUTORY DIRECTIVE

IC 15-13-6-4 directs the State Fair Advisory Committee to

- (1) Serve as a liaison between the
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn;
 - (C) board; and
 - (D) General Assembly.
- (2) Review policies affecting the activities of the
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) barn;
 - (C) State Fair;
 - (D) facilities at the fairgrounds; and
 - (E) property owned by the commission.
- (3) Provide long-range guidance for the
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn; and
 - (C) board.
- (4) Review annually the
 - (A) commission's;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn's; and
 - (C) board's;

budgets and other accounts and report financial conditions to the Legislative Council.
- (5) Further advise the Budget Committee regarding appropriations and other financial matters concerning the:
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) board of trustees of the barn; and
 - (C) board.
- (6) Propose, review, and make recommendations concerning legislation affecting the
 - (A) commission;
 - (B) barn; and
 - (C) board.

The Legislative Council did not assign any topics of study to the Committee in 2010.

II. SUMMARY OF WORK PROGRAM

The Committee met twice during the 2010 interim, on July 20 and October 26, 2010, at the Board Room of the Administration Building, Indiana State Fairgrounds.

III. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

New Projects at the State Fair. Cynthia Hoyer, Executive Director of the Indiana State Fair, described new projects on the Fairgrounds and new promotions at the State Fair.

Proposal by Indiana Winegrowers and the Indiana Brewers Guild. Larry Satek, **President of the Indiana Winegrowers Guild**, provided an overview of the wine industry in Indiana. Mr. Satek would like to see a beer and/or wine garden in a controlled area at the State Fair. He would like to see the prohibition against alcohol at the State Fair repealed. **Ted Miller, Brewers of Indiana Guild**, proposed selling beer at the 2011 State Fair. **Jeff Eaton, Barley Island Brewhouse**, was interested in showcasing the educational aspect of brewing and highlighting the connection between breweries and Indiana agriculture.

Annual Report of the State Fair Commission's Budget. Director Hoyer provided an overview of the Commission's budget.

Financials of the 2010 Indiana State Fair. David Ellis provided a summary of the revenue and expenditures of the 2010 State Fair.

Attendance at the 2010 Fair. Director Hoyer reviewed the demographic profile of Fair attendees. Pat Berger, Indiana State Fair Commission (ISFC), distributed information regarding attendance at the Fair since 1988.

Length of the State Fair. Director Hoyer explained that the number of days of the State Fair was increased from 12 days to 17 days for 2009 through 2011. There have been discussions about continuing with the 17-day format for 2012 and 2013.

Creating a State Fair Commission 501(c)(3) Foundation. Pat Berger, ISFC, explained that a 501(c)(3) foundation would be able to apply for certain grants, and individuals are more likely to donate to a foundation rather than a governmental unit. Having a foundation would allow donors to make tax-deductible contributions. The foundation would also be able to receive grants and operate capital campaigns.

IV. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Indiana Wine and Beer Display and Sale at the Indiana State Fair. The committee voted by consent to ask that the State Fair Commission put the topic of the display and sale of Indiana wine and beer at the State Fair on the Commission's agenda.

Funding for Repairs to the Coliseum. The committee consented by a voice vote to the concept of creating a foundation to allow funds to be collected for the upkeep of the Coliseum at the State Fair.

Meeting minutes for the Committee can be accessed from the General Assembly homepage at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>.

WITNESS LIST

Jeff Eaton, Barley Island Brewhouse
Pat Berger, Indiana State Fair Commission
David Ellis, Indiana State Fair Commission
Cynthia Hoyer, Executive Director, Indiana State Fair
Ted Miller, Brewers of Indiana Guild
Larry Satek, President, Indiana Winegrowers Guild